



THE TIMES-Dispatch FOUNDED 1884  
THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1884

WHOLE NUMBER 18,112.

RICHMOND, VA., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1909.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY—Fair.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## TAFT NOW ANXIOUS FOR FULL INQUIRY

Eager for Merciless Probing of Ballinger—Pinchot Controversy.

## AT LAST HEEDS FRIENDS' ADVICE

Attack Believed to Be Beginning of Organized Conspiracy to Discredit the Administration—Ballinger Is Used as Target—Congress Will Investigate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21.—Any doubt that the whole force of the Taft administration is to be behind the investigation demanded by both sides of the so-called Ballinger-Pinchot controversy was dispelled by events in and out of Congress to-day. There is now no question that President Taft himself is as eager for the merciless probing of the whole matter as hitherto he has been reluctant to admit the necessity for it.

A motive much deeper than willingness to do justice to Secretary Ballinger is ascribed to President Taft by Senators, Representatives and others active in politics. Men who are in a position to know the sentiments of Mr. Taft declared to-night that he has at last become convinced of the truth of what his friends have been telling him for many weeks—that what he has hitherto laughed at—that there lies behind the attack on Mr. Ballinger a more or less definitely organized movement to discredit the Taft administration, especially by spreading the impression that the so-called "Roosevelt policies" are in unfeeling hands; that Mr. Ballinger was made the target, only on the theory that he offered for the present the most vulnerable point in the administration. Because he was loath to believe that such a propaganda was under way, Mr. Taft opposed every suggestion from Mr. Ballinger or his friends that attacks upon the Land Office should be met with a determination to reach and expose those responsible for the attacks upon the secretary and other officials of the Interior Department and the general Land Office.

Though slow to come to a decision, it is known that Mr. Taft is now inclined to believe that the criticisms that have cropped out in many widely-separated localities are a part of a deliberate determination to make trouble which amounts practically to a conspiracy.

### First Steps in Investigation.

The first step in paving the way for a congressional investigation was taken to-day. Senator Flint introduced a resolution in the Senate directing the Attorney-General to send to the Senate all of the papers in his possession which relate to the case. These papers include the report of L. R. Glavin, the dismissed special agent of the General Land Office, who sought to connect Mr. Ballinger with the Cunningham coal land cases in a manner reflecting upon his integrity. These records are the ones on which the President based his exoneration of his secretary of the Interior. The Flint resolution was adopted, and some time later it was learned that it had been drafted by Attorney-General Wickesham, and that it was one of the matters considered at the White House conference yesterday when the Attorney-General, Mr. Ballinger, and Postmaster-General Hitchcock, discussed with the President the advisability of approving of a congressional investigation. This knowledge led to the thought by Senators that these records may be far more extensive than generally supposed.

A motion on the part of Mr. Ballinger was followed by the introduction by Senator Jones, of Washington, of a letter from Secretary Ballinger urging an inquiry into the matter. It says, in part:

"Any investigation by Congress of the Interior Department or of any of its officers should be sufficiently broad and far-reaching to put at rest the suspicions, criticisms and representations of corrupt or improper practices heretofore charged against the present administration thereof, and furthermore, such investigation should embrace the forest service, since I have reason to believe that the pernicious activity of certain of its officers has been the source of the inspiration of these charges, and involves in part the common administration of the public domain.

Mr. Jones then gave notice that unless some other Senator did so he would offer a resolution calling for a joint congressional investigation. Having opened the channel for a congressional inquiry, the selection of the proper tribunal to hear the evidence for and against both Mr. Ballinger and Chief Forester Pinchot becomes a very important question. Attention was given to this subject to-day. Republican leaders in the Senate have practically agreed that Senator Nelson, chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, should be the body which probably will be the Senate Committee on Public Lands.

## DANGER TO BATTLESHIP

The Georgia Scraped Eighteen Times by Collier's Propeller Blades.

NOFOLK, VA., December 21.—Examination in drydock of the battleship Georgia, which was struck by the propeller of the oiler Vestal, in Hampton Roads Friday, showed the Georgia to have been scraped eighteen times by the sharp propeller blades, with several punctures in her outer hull ten feet below the water-line, amidships, on the port side. Two double-bottom compartments were filled, as a result of the punctures and consequent leakage. While the damages to the Georgia are comparatively slight, it will probably take two weeks to complete the necessary repairs. The ship will then rejoin the Schrodor fleet.

## WOULD KEEP BOYS ON VIRGINIA FARMS

Public School Youths to Do Demonstration Work.

## TWENTY COUNTIES TO WITNESS TRIALS

Ground Broken To-Day by Superintendent Eggleston for Great Task of Twentieth Century. Effort to Improve Country Life in Virginia.

## Formula for a Superintendent

From one parent willing to give his boy a chance to earn an acre of land.

To that boy add one demonstrator who will supply expert knowledge. Use one teacher, sympathetic with this work and capable of guiding and encouraging the boy, to stir into the boy from time to time bulletins and circulars on corn raising. Mix the boy and the acre of land regularly. At the end of one year state the result in terms of social chemistry. —Mr. Eggleston.

With the co-operation of the United States Department of Agriculture, Superintendent of Public Instruction J. D. Eggleston, Jr., this morning launched the first practical movement looking to the end which has been so devoutly wished by writers and speakers during the past few years—keeping the Virginia boys on the farms or the Commonwealth's soil for their own benefit.

The entire plan shows the attention to detail which has been given by Mr. Eggleston in his cherished ambition to show the people of this State that Virginia land, with proper applications of brain and scientific knowledge, holds as great possibilities for human success as any other line of human endeavor.

### Limited Work First Year.

For the year 1910 the work will be limited to about twenty counties, where the services can be secured of the Virginia demonstrators from the Bureau of Plant Industry. Of course, it is expected to eventually have similar plans along more extensive lines in every county in the State.

Mr. Eggleston's plan, which he will to-day communicate to twenty division school superintendents, contemplates the selection of two to six boys from each of two to ten schools in the county. These boys are to be given the use of an acre of land by parents, are to be aided by the government demonstrators and are to receive instruction from their teachers. It is suggested that after the crop is gathered exhibits or fairs be held in each county and prizes offered for the best showing. Corn growing alone is contemplated this year.

Dr. S. A. Knapp, chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, has promised the assistance of the agents of the work in this State, who are headed by T. O. Sandy, of Burkeville. These agents or demonstrators are already at work among the adult farmers, and they will assist the boys who take part in the new boys' demonstration work.

### Each Boy to Have Acre.

The boys, who must be regular attendants in the public schools, are to be chosen by the superintendents. Each boy selected shall have on his home place one acre of land. On this acre, which is not to be the best acre on the place, he is to raise a crop of corn under the definite instruction of the government demonstrator, assisted by the teacher. He is to bind himself to follow carefully the instructions laid down by the demonstration agents through their circulars and bulletins.

The superintendents are instructed to select not less than two nor more than ten schools in the county, preferably of the consolidated type, in which to begin. The work is not to be attempted in any school where the teacher cannot or will not take hold of it with sympathy and determination. In each of the schools there are to be selected from two to six boys who are willing to take up the work during the coming year.

Superintendents are warned not to choose boys who cannot meet all the requirements. However, in a few schools, if conditions are favorable, more than the designated number may be permitted to join the club. No boy is to be chosen whose parent or guardian will not permit him to have the acre of land, either free or rented at a reasonable rent by the boy, to cultivate as directed, and to own all the products of his labor when the crop is gathered.

### Lazy Boys Not Wanted.

"This is no work," says Superintendent Eggleston, "for lazy boys. Do not select any such. The regular school work is not to be interfered with. A boy who neglects his regular studies is not likely to do well with his acre, and should be dropped from the club."

At least thirty minutes each week, preferably in two lessons, are to be given by the teacher to the boys who are to do this work. Expert knowledge on the part of the teacher is not necessary, for the demonstrator and bulletins will supply this information. Referring to the teacher's part in the work, Mr. Eggleston says: "What the teacher, man or woman, needs most of all is to see the possibilities in this work; to take a keen interest in it; to sympathize with it; and to deal with the boys frankly. Bulletins and circulars on corn culture will be sent each boy free of cost. The teacher can read and discuss these with the boys."

(Continued on Page Eleven—Column 4.)

## ALL THREE WOMEN HELD FOR MURDER

Result of Investigation Into Death of Ocey Snead.

## EXACT FINDINGS NOT GIVEN OUT

Prosecutor Intimates That Indictments Were Returned. Report Will Be Made to Court—Mother, Mother-in-Law and Aunt Accused of the Killing.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NEW YORK, December 21.—The investigation into the death of Ocey W. M. Snead was completed in three hours this afternoon by the Essex county grand jury at Newark, and it is reported that indictments were found against Mrs. Carolina B. Martin, her mother; Mrs. Mary Snead, her mother-in-law, and Miss Virginia Wardlaw, her aunt.

Prosecutor Mott, while intimating that the grand jury held three indictments against the three women of Ocey Snead for trial on a charge of murder, said that it would be slightly improper for him to disclose the findings of the jury until after it makes a formal report to the Essex county court. It is expected that the indictments will be handed in tomorrow afternoon or Thursday morning.

Colonel Robert J. Haire, counsel for Mrs. Martin, is preparing an application for a writ of habeas corpus, which he will present to the Supreme Court Friday morning, when Mrs. Martin is to be arraigned. That will be his first move in an effort to block extradition of the aged woman.

The celebrity with which the grand jury completed its work to-day was a surprise. Before half of the witnesses subpoenaed testified, Prosecutor Mott announced that the grand jury was satisfied with the showing made, and that all other witnesses might go home.

The testimony given to-day convinced the jury, it is understood, that Mrs. Martin had been in East Orange, where the death of Ocey Snead occurred, on November 29, the day the body was found. It was also shown that Mrs. Snead had been in East Orange several days before the alleged murder occurred.

Unless the presence of the two women in New Jersey at or near the time of the supposed murder was proved, it would be impossible to extradite them.

Handwriting Expert Testifies. One of the principal witnesses was William J. Kinsey, a handwriting expert, who gave his opinion concerning the numerous "suicide" notes. The notes themselves were also shown to the jury, with a number of letters and memoranda that the prosecutor alleged proved conclusively a conspiracy existed to and with the life of Ocey Snead. There were thirty or forty "suicide" notes in the papers of Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Snead, said the prosecutor.

"Mr. Kinsey's report was very convincing. He is a very conscientious man and makes a careful comparison of the writings."

"This is the first case in my experience," said Expert Kinsey after he had testified, "in which a person contemplating suicide ever wrote more than one letter."

Mr. Kinsey's attention was called to the peculiar "W" made by Mrs. Martin in signing her name. He said that the "W" was not found in any of the "suicide" notes.

"Only persons of education or culture write such notes," said Mrs. Martin in the Tombs prison. "The more highly educated a person is the more care is taken in the preparation of such a note. My daughter, Ocey, was not only of superior character, but she had a suicidal mania, and I have no doubt that her idea was to make the note a masterpiece. That accounts for the number of drafts of the note that were made."

Prosecutor Mott for the first time to-day disclosed the fact that a number of "suicide" letters were also found in the effects of Mrs. Snead taken from the house at No. 46 West Twenty-second Street, in which she was arrested.

Mrs. Martin in East Orange. Charles Curtis, a newsboy, testified that he had seen Mrs. Martin in East Orange the day Ocey's body was found in a bathtub.

William Howard, another boy, told how he found a well, said to be Mrs. Martin's, on the same day, and shortly after she had been seen by Curtis. A street car conductor, Joseph Hand, who was quite certain that Mrs. Martin rode on his car from East Orange to Newark also on that day.

The first witness questioned by the jury was Detective O'Neill. He was followed on the stand by Chief of Police Bell, who searched the house in East Orange, and was unable to find any pen or ink, and for that reason was of the opinion that the "suicide" note found pinned to Ocey's clothing was a forgery.

County Physician McKenzio and his assistant, Dr. Herbert Simmons, testified as to the autopsy. Dr. Willis H. Hicks, who is making a chemical and microscopic examination of Ocey Snead's viscera, was called, but informed the jury that he had not completed his investigation.

A number of other witnesses were examined, but the prosecutor called only those whose evidence he believed would convince the jury that it was justified in holding the three women.

He did not want all his witnesses examined, as he desires to keep much of his evidence secret until the trial. If indictments are found, and Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Snead are extradited, it would be several months before they would be tried, the prosecutor said.

Washington-Sunset Route to California. Tourist sleeping car four times weekly without baggage conductor. Conducted. North. \$2.20. 220 E. Main St.

## ZELAYA'S TROOPS ROUTED IN BATTLE

Revolutionists Win Decisive Victory in Encounter at Rama.

## FIGHT WILL BE RENEWED TO-DAY

Moral Effects of Outcome Can Hardly Be Exaggerated—Clash Between Armies Not Unexpected—Estrada Confident of Routing Enemy When Conflict Is Renewed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21.—Zelaya's troops were routed by the Nicaraguan revolutionists to-day in a fierce battle at Rama, lasting several hours, according to advices received here this afternoon. General Estrada, in command of the revolutionary army, is reported to have been successful all along the line. The battle is to be renewed to-morrow, the advices declared, and the Estrada army will bend all efforts to compel the unconditional surrender of the government forces.

There is some doubt as to the exact extent of Estrada's success. From revolutionary sources the word is sent that the victory over the Zelayan troops is "complete." The State Department has received word from Thomas H. Moffatt, United States consul at Bluefields, that Estrada had "partially routed and defeated the forces of Zelaya." It is agreed, however, that the moral effect of such initial success on the part of the revolutionists can hardly be exaggerated.

The first announcement of the success of the Estrada army came in a cablegram to Dr. Castillo, the representative here of the provisional government. It was signed "Diaz," Diaz is Secretary of State of the provisional government. The cablegram said: "Complete victory is ours. Zelaya's troops are in retreat."

Placed under several hours. Later this evening the State Department gave out the following message from Consul Moffatt, from Colon: "Estrada forces at Tambla and Recreo, near New Rama, commanded by General Mena at the former place and Generals Chamorro, Mattuti and Torres at the latter place, partially routed and defeated the forces of Zelaya after desperate fighting of several hours. The Zelayan forces were commanded by General Gonzalez. A great many were killed, the number being unknown; 100 were wounded and 150 prisoners were taken by the revolutionists. The Zelayan troops at Recreo have occupied what has been considered a strong position. Estrada is confident of defeating the enemy when he renews the attack to-morrow, and of forcing their surrender."

The clash between the two armies was unexpected. For days on end they have been lying practically idle in their trenches around Rama, skirmishes only marring the peace that brooded over that section. Estrada played a waiting game, in the hope that the Zelayan commanders would take the initiative and attempt the capture of his position, which was reported to be very strong. Furthermore, with the waning of President Zelaya's star, he expected a large number of accessions from the Zelayan army.

Estrada Becomes Active. When Zelaya abdicated and practically dictated the election of Dr. Martin as his successor, Estrada, determined to strike. Accordingly he moved his army forward early to-day and took the field actively against his enemy. Dr. Castillo and his friends look forward confidently to the result of the battle, and to the beginning of the march of the victorious army on the capital.

None of the officials of the State Department, however, discuss the reported victory of Estrada. It is known, however, that the news was not unwelcome. Had the Zelayan army won over Estrada this government would have been in a somewhat embarrassing position, having espoused the cause of the provisional government.

In Central American diplomatic circles the word brought joy, and there was a general celebration to-night. The diplomats join in the prediction that the victory is the beginning of the end of Zelaya's reign, and that the next step will be to force the retirement of President Madriz on the ground that he is a tool of Zelaya and not the real choice of the country.

New President Inaugurated. MANAGUA, NICARAGUA, December 21.—The United States consulate to-day received a plea for protection. The petition, signed by many prominent residents, including several United States citizens, asked that Cortino immediately be disarmed and sent to Granada to defend threatened interests there.

Granada is one of President Madriz's strongholds. Jose Madriz was inaugurated to-day as president of Nicaragua. The ceremony was held at the residence and not at the Parliament building. Zelaya made a brief speech, saying: "I entrust the Nicaraguans to rally to the support of President Madriz, who has made a vow for the early termination of the civil war. I wish to pay tribute to the ability and integrity of my successor. I am confident that his administration will be beneficial."

The words of the President were greeted with applause. In accepting office he said: "I assume the presidency unmoved by personal ambition, but by the spirit of a good son going to the rescue of his beloved mother, harassed and imperiled. I shall not be able to restore peace and prosperity unaided, and I ask for the assistance of all true patriots."

Mr. Aldrich will be made Nicaragua (Continued on Page Nine—Column 2.)

## COOK'S CLAIMS SHATTERED COMPLETELY BY SCIENTISTS



DR. FREDERIK A. COOK.

## COMMITTEE HEARS STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Alderman Presents Its Needs. V. M. I. Is Represented.

## ADJOURNMENT TO JANUARY 5

Senators Will Reassemble in Advance of Legislative Session.

After a short executive session, beginning at 11 o'clock this morning, the Senate Finance Committee will take a recess until Wednesday, January 5, 1910. The date for reassembling is just one week in advance of the beginning of the session of the General Assembly. During that week the committee will decide upon its attitude toward the appropriations asked for by the State institutions, and may formulate a tentative general appropriation bill. The hearings on the committee heard representatives of the University of Virginia, the Virginia Military Institute, the Colored Reformatory, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Hollywood Memorial Association and the Secretary of the Virginia Military Records.

Several persons gathered in the Corporation Commission courtroom to hear Dr. E. A. Alderman, president of the University of Virginia, speak. He presented in a business-like way a financial budget comprising the needs of the great educational institution of which he is the head, and yet it was delivered in such an engaging and attractive manner, with all the treasure house of diction which is his, that he was heard with all the interest which attaches to a genuine oration.

Parade Ground at V. M. I. Colonel E. W. Nichols, superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, was the first speaker. More money is needed, he said, for enlargement of the parade ground. To this end a land-escalade has been secured, and he evolved a comprehensive plan of betterment of the grounds by the removal of certain buildings.

Two plans were proposed by Colonel Nichols. First is to allow the Institute to issue \$100,000 in bonds for repairs on the buildings of the school. The annual expenses of the school amount to \$150,000, and of this \$110,000 must come from students, more than half of whom at present are from other States than Virginia. These pay more than State students.

School Has Earned Money. It was stated that of the \$300,000 spent in improvements at the Institute since the buildings were burned during the Civil War, \$75,000 was out of the earnings of the school. The annual expenses of the school amount to \$150,000, and of this \$110,000 must come from students, more than half of whom at present are from other States than Virginia. These pay more than State students.

Colonel Nichols spoke for a time on the work done by the school. He said that the profession of arms is a pure incident, and that the V. M. I. men rank at the top among those who follow civic pursuits.

Adjutant-General Charles J. Anderson followed for the same institution. He said that money is needed to pay junior professors, and for apparatus and equipment in geography and chemistry. He made an earnest plea for additional money for the Institute.

### Stundon at University.

Dr. Alderman then presented the

(Continued on Page Nine—Column 1.)

## COSTS BIG SUM TO DEFEND SUIT

Brokaw's Counsel Make Statement Showing Money Expended.

## MANY WITNESSES TESTIFY

References to Cocktails and Cigarettes Irritate Plaintiff.

NEW YORK, December 21.—"What it costs to defend a separation suit in high life" is the title of a statement given out at Mineo-a to-day by counsel for W. Gould Brokaw, whose wife is suing him for separation, with alimony of \$50,000 a year.

The tabulated items follow: Stenographers' minutes, \$3,000. Attendance of witnesses, car fare and board, \$4,000. Plaintiff's counsel by order of court, \$5,000.

For preparation and investigation of case, \$5,000. Counsel for defendant, \$30,000. Total, \$50,000.

"I will show," added John F. McIntyre, Brokaw's lawyer, "that Mr. Brokaw's income is not \$20,000 a year. He has been a generous spender, a prince of hosts, he has never engaged in any regular business, and his income has dwindled greatly."

Mr. Brokaw did not take the stand in his own defense to-day, though he was prepared for it. For half an hour before Justice Putnam mounted the bench, Woods, the butler who swore placed the gravel walk in front of the courthouse, apparently rehearsing the testimony he expected to give, but when court convened there was a change of plans.

Butlers, maids and more of the many physicians employed to tune the jangled nerves of the alienated couple testified for the husband and defendant.

For the first time since the trial began, Mrs. Brokaw was plainly out of countenance to-day. For one thing, her mother, Mrs. James A. Blair, is severely ill with pneumonia at West Chester, her health undermined by the publicity of the trial. For another, the continued mention of cigarettes and cocktails in the evidence plainly irritates the plaintiff increasingly.

Sunday Woods, the butler who swore yesterday that somebody lashed Mrs. Brokaw's maid, Miss See, with a horsewhip, and that "Mrs. Brokaw knew who," testified to-day that he usually mixed cocktails daily for Mrs. See, who disappeared with them in the direction of Mrs. Brokaw's room.

Olive O'Leary, a maid, swore she has served Mrs. Brokaw with port wine in her room. She testified in addition that she had heard Mrs. Brokaw venturing on mild profanity and one of her tasks was to clean cigarette stubs out of Mrs. Brokaw's bathroom.

Dr. Robert Pon, at one time Mrs. Brokaw's physician, testified that he had heard Mrs. Brokaw tell her husband to go to —, and that she had applied to him one of the epithets which he complained in her testimony he had applied to her—"a — liar."

During this testimony Mrs. Brokaw's face was completely hidden, and one small handkerchief succeeded another in journeys from her muff to her eyes.

After testifying to the apparent happiness of the couple in 1908, Dr. Pon later testified that he met Mrs. Brokaw wandering about the corridor of a New York hotel at about 1 o'clock in the morning. When he asked her what she was doing there he testified that she said:

"I am looking for my husband. I am suspicious of him. You know I found him once in a bathroom with a nurse."

Records Fail Absolutely to Prove Story of Dash to Pole.

## DANISH PEOPLE FEEL HUMILIATED

University May Cancel Honorary Degree—Documents Not Original Data and of No Scientific Importance—Strong Condemnation by Indignant Danes.

COPENHAGEN, December 21.—The report of the special committee of scientists which the University of Copenhagen appointed to scrutinize Dr. Frederik A. Cook's claims that he had discovered the North Pole was submitted to the consistory of the university this morning, indorsed by that body, and given to the public.

The report shatters completely, almost contemptuously, the American explorer's claim of such discovery, and fills the officials and people of Denmark with chagrin at the figure Denmark is made to assume in the eyes of the scientific world. The public was prepared for a verdict of "not proven," but did not expect its recent hero to be branded a humbug. Many still cling to the belief that Cook acted in good faith, but harbored a delusion.

Explorers and scientists, almost unanimously have lost faith in Cook's honesty, while one of his warmest supporters, Knud Rasmussen, the explorer, helped to frame the report. The evening papers attack Cook and severely reproach him for hiding, which they regard as a sign of a guilty conscience.

The rector of the university, Dr. Salomonson, when questioned as to the possibility of such discovery, replying the degree which it conferred on Dr. Cook, said that no decision had been reached, but he thought that the degree could be withdrawn in the same way as a government could deprive a person of an order obtained under false pretenses.

Commodore Gustave Holm, the Arctic explorer, and a member of the committee, said: "Cook's claim that he made the observation 30 degrees, 55 minutes, 45 seconds near the pole proved immediately that he was a bad observer, but nothing indicated that he was a swindler. Now his papers convict him of being a swindler. We examined Cook's observations first and agreed unanimously that they were worthless. Loose's observations were not used in the papers Cook submitted to the university. He is a clever man, just the sort that Cook could use."

Professor Oluksen, secretary of the Danish Geographical Society, said: "It is the saddest event in my life. As an explorer there seems to be no doubt that Cook is absolutely unreliable."

The committee appointed by the university to examine Cook's records recently presented its report to the consistory of the university, which reviewed the deductions of the experts with the greatest care and discussed the findings from every standpoint. That both the committee and the consistory were disappointed was soon known.

Report of Consistory. The consistory met to-day and adopted a written report to the effect that the alleged records submitted for examination by Dr. Cook failed to prove his claim that he had discovered the North Pole. After obtaining all available information, the committee finds as follows:

"First. The report of the expedition sent to the university by Dr. Cook is the saddest event in my life. As an explorer there seems to be no doubt that Cook is absolutely unreliable."

"Second. The copy of Cook's notes does not contain any original astronomical observations whatsoever, but only recollections of what he had seen."

"Third. The documents presented are inexcusably lacking in information which would prove that the astronomical observations therein referred to were really made; and also contain no details regarding the practical work of the expedition and the sledging journey which would enable the committee to determine their reliability."

"The committee, therefore, is of the opinion that the material transmitted for examination contains no proof that Dr. Cook reached the pole."

The report is signed by all the members of the committee, which was composed of the following: Professor Ellis Strommen, professor of the Astronomical Observatory; Dr. C. F. Pecheux, formerly attached to the observatory; Gustave Holm, explorer; Professor A. R. Yonson, president of the School of Navigation; Dr. Reide, director of the Meteorological Office, and Dr. F. A. Engstrom, director of the Lund Observatory.

Statement by University Council. The University Council issued this statement: "The documents handed the university for examination do not contain observations and information which would enable the committee to determine their reliability."

The public is unable to comprehend why Cook sent his papers, when he admits in the letter presented to Professor Torp, former rector of the University of Copenhagen, by his secretary, Walter Lonsdale, that "it seems unwise and impossible to give final judgment because of the absence of the instruments and observations which I left at Etah."

The members of the examining committee are very angry over the doctor's behavior. Professor Strommen, the president of the committee, is furious, and to-night characterized Cook's treatment of the university as "shameless." Inquiry as to whether the committee would undertake a further examination in the event of Cook sending for the instruments and observations which are supposed to be at Etah developed that a majority of the members were not